river Yamuna. There are 18 drains in Delhi which ultimately join river Yamuna. A total 1760 Million litre/day (MLD) of waste water is generated with Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) load of 587 ton/day. It has been estimated that domestic sources contribute 77.8% of waste water containing 64% of the total BOD load. Industries generate 4.6% of waste water containing 22% of BOD load and other sources contribute 17.6% of generated waste water and 14% of BOD load.

The studies conducted by the Department of Environment, Government of Delhi, show that the ambient air noice levels at major locations and traffic junctions in Delhi have increased from 80—85 decibels in the year 1987 to 85—90 decibels in 1992.

(c) to (e) The Government is taking a number of steps to control pollution.

(i) As per the Yamuna Action Plan formulated by the Government, the sewage treatment capacity of Delhi is to be raised from existing capacity of 1270 million litre/day to 2210 million litre/day.

(ii) Financial assistance of Rs. 22.5 crores has been extended to set-up Common Effluent Treatment Plants for control of water pollution in Delhi.

(iii) Polluting industries have been directed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court to relocate/shift from non-conforming areas to the conforming areas.

(iv) The three thermal power plants in Delhi have been directed to take necessary steps for arresting air pollution including use of washed coal.

(v) More petrol stations have been equipped with pollution checking facilities.

(vi) Cleaner fuel for vehicles such as Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) has been introduced.

(vii) Low-sulphur diesel is being supplied at all outlets of Delhi since, 1.4.1996.

(viii) Checking of polluting vehicles on a regular basis is being done by the Transport Department of the Government of NCT of Delhi.

(ix) Public awareness campaigns are being carried out.

(x) A Committee has been constituted by the Government for Comprehensive Action Plan on Environment and Pollution Control in Delhi in 1994.

Clearance of SC/ST/OBC backlog

*13. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special drive has been undertaken to clear the SC/ST/OBC backlog in the Ministry of Agriculture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the present backlog and the targets contemplated for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has launched a Special Recruitment Drive for filling up the available SC/ST/OBC vacancies in the Department, attached and subordinate offices, Public Sector Undertakings, autonomous bodies etc.

(b) As per information available, 52 SC/ST posts are lying vacant at present in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, its attached and subordinate offices, Public Sector Undertakings, autonomous bodies etc. So far 5 SC/ST posts have been filled up after launch of the Special Recruitment Drive. This unsatisfactory progress has been due to difficulties in obtaining timely recommendations from recruitment agencies and want of required certificates such as Character antecedents from the police, caste or medical certificates.

As far as OBCs are concerned, all the concerned Organisations have been asked to implement the prescribed rosters. They are being reminded to expedite filling up of the posts from time to time.

Collusion of forest officials with Poachers

*14. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prevailing collusion of Poachers with forest guards and